



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Access Community Health Network is celebrating
3 its new diabetes management program in 20 community health
4 centers, benefiting more than 6,000 low-income, often
5 uninsured diabetic patients; and

6 WHEREAS, Access Community Health Network was named the 2005
7 Chicago Benefits recipient and received a \$100,000 grant from
8 Humana to fund its diabetes management program for low-income
9 patients; the program is based upon a successful pilot project
10 in six health centers; the grant will expand the project and
11 will reach more than 6,000 diabetic patients with medical care,
12 health education, and self-management tools to reduce their
13 HbA1c scores to the recommended level of 7.0 or less; and

14 WHEREAS, Access Community Health Network, is the nation's
15 largest network of community health centers, serving 175,000
16 low income patients each year; 93% of the agency's patients are
17 African-American or Latino/a, and one-third are uninsured;
18 more than 99% of the organization's patients live at or below
19 200% of the poverty level; about 61% of the organization's
20 patients are Medicaid beneficiaries, and 4% are enrolled in
21 Medicare; Access Community Health Network's quality of care is
22 among the top 10% in the nation; and

23 WHEREAS, Access Community Health Network was founded in the
24 1980s by Mount Sinai Hospital, which serves Chicago's highly
25 impoverished North Lawndale community; in 1991, the
26 organization became a separately incorporated 501(c)3
27 organization with nine clinics, its own management team, and a
28 patient-majority Board of Directors; and

29 WHEREAS, Access Community Health Network's goal for its
30 diabetes management program is to decrease HbA1c scores;
31 diabetes is one of our nation's greatest health risks,

1 affecting approximately 18.2 million people in the United
2 States, roughly 6.2% of the population; it is associated with
3 heart disease, chronic kidney problems, blindness, and
4 amputations and is the fifth leading cause of death among
5 women, the sixth among men, and the seventh leading cause of
6 death in Chicago; diabetes is particularly devastating for
7 people of color and low-income people, Access Community
8 Network's target population; and

9 WHEREAS, Today, Access Community Health Network is the
10 largest health provider in the region, with the sole exception
11 of the Cook County Department of Public Health; Access
12 Community Health Network's 44 health centers serve one out of
13 five of Chicago's and one out of ten of the suburbs' uninsured
14 patients; the organization's 170 board certified physicians
15 are complemented by 300 RNs, LCSWs, medical assistants, health
16 educators, case managers, and outreach specialists; and

17 WHEREAS, Access Community Health Network's patients
18 benefit from nationally recognized partnerships with community
19 mental health and substance abuse treatment providers, social
20 service agencies, dentists, and seven hospitals (including
21 Mount Sinai); therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
23 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
24 we congratulate Access Community Health Network on the occasion
25 of celebrating the expansion of its diabetes management
26 program; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
28 presented to Access Community Health Network as an expression
29 of our esteem.